

Allen County Soil and Water Conservation District
Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
July 31, 2017 @ 8 AM
3718 New Vision Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46845

Supervisors: Tom Miller, Tom Crowe, Don Rekeweg, Jeff Stieglitz, Chad Shaw

Associate Supervisors: Ellis McFadden

SWCD Staff: Greg Lake, Krista Voors, Kate Sanders, Matt Jones

NRCS: Tim Bomba

ISDA: Jill Krause, Jennifer Thum

SJRWI: Doug Fasick

Supervisors Not in Attendance: N/A

Meeting was called to order at 8:08 a.m. by Tom Crowe.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the June Board Meeting were reviewed. Jeff Stieglitz made a motion to approve the minutes and Tom Miller seconded the motion. All approved and motion passed.

Approval of Claims:

Krista reviewed the claims, dated July 31, 2017 voucher numbers 8239 through 8244, totaling \$11,545.94. The Deposit Report, Treasurers' Reports, petty cash log, and bank reconciliation reports were also reviewed. Motion to approve the claims, and financial reports, subject to audit, was made by Tom Miller and seconded by Don Rekeweg, all approved motion passed.

Old Business:

- Website – no update at this time.

Ongoing Projects/Grants:

- WLEB
 - In-Field Advantage – Greg reported that there are 37 fields enrolled this year. Sept. 11 is the staff training for stalk sampling. Allen County's winter meeting will be in conjunction with Whitley & Steuben/LaGrange and will take place in December.
 - RCPP – There is a technical training day scheduled for 9/28 in Toledo. This is year number three of five for funding within the WLEB.
 - PSS/CRP Contribution Agreement with IASWCD/NRCS – Kate is currently working on scanning/uploading into the document management system.
- USGS/GLRI Project –
 - Sediment Source Tracking project – This project was brought to our attention and began quickly. USGS has a goal of collecting surface soil samples, with many land uses from approximately 75 sites within the black creek area in order to get sediment DNA. Allen SWCD assisted with site location and land owner cooperation. Additionally passive samplers will be installed in streams that will have samples pulled during rain events and those samples will be analyzed to determine where it came from. Kate may assist with remaining sampling over the next two weeks.
 - Greg asked that the Allen SWCD cover the cost to do an additional test of pH on those samples. Samples would be analyzed by Brookside labs at \$5 each. Tom Miller made a motion for the Allen SWCD funds to cover the cost of the pH sample analysis at approx. 75 sites. Jeff Stieglitz seconded the motion and all approved.
 - Expansion Project – USGS will be adding an additional sampler to the St. Marys River on Ferguson Road with a similar setup as the one on Schaefer Rd. They have

modest expectations of the unit being installed prior to the end of the year. There will also be additional samplers installed at Schlatter Farms similar to the setup on Bull Rapids road.

- Upper Maumee 319 P-risk Index Assessment Pilot grant –
 - Program is currently being advertised; some interest has been expressed already.

Reports & Updates:

- ACPWQ –Currently revising plan of work; ACPWQ will be receiving \$10,000/yr. as a contractor, to conduct education & outreach for a GLRI Grant awarded to NIRCC; August 7-11 is River Camp.
- Purdue Extension – No update at this time.
- ISDA – State Fair opens on Friday, August 11th and this is the 25th anniversary for the Pathway to Water Quality. August 17th is Supervisor Training from 3p-7p in Fulton County. Jane Hardisty won the Purdue Women in Ag Leadership award. CWI 2018 grant applications are due 9/15 and there is no cap. Jennifer is organizing a tour for EPA this fall. SBOA AFR training will be Dec. 7th in Indianapolis.
- MRBC – Greg reported that the next meeting is Thursday, Aug. 3rd and one of the things to be discussed is Christopher Burke Engineering is requesting funding for a feasibility study to be conducted by Robert Barr for bank re-stabilization for the St. Marys from downtown Fort Wayne to the Ohio line.
- NRCS –Tim reported that NRCS is pleased with the PSS agreement work and plans to continue with the contribution agreements. Also, he shared that statewide (IN) EQIP general fulfilled 1,060 contracts totaling \$21.1 Million which is impressive and now there is no backlog.
- SJRWI – Received notice to proceed on a 319 implementation grant application for the Lower St. Joe & Bear Creek areas. Flow the SJ is on Aug. 5th. Annual meeting plans have begun for 2017. The water quality monitoring program continues.
- TSWA
 - 319 Grant - Previously Greg Lake reported that he submitted a Notice of Intent for a 319 Implementation Grant for the Upper Maumee watershed in the TSWA name. That was well received and a full application is underway. On Friday, Aug. 4th there will be a meeting to discuss the direction of the grant application with the Adams County SWCD office because the focus area of the grant will most likely be switched to the St. Marys watershed. This meeting should hopefully determine roles of all partners involved. This grant would support 1 part-time person. The Allen Co. District is listed as a partnering agency.
- Water Quality Sampling Program – Greg shared that he feels the reason the District is continually being contacted for grant opportunities is due to the water sampling program and its data and the long-term history of the data. Therefore he feels the SWCD should contribute more financially to the program. The board asked that at the next board meeting he provide some financial reports on the expenses and current funding for the water sampling program before they make any decisions.

New Business:

- EPA Grant – Late last week IDEM reached out to the Allen SWCD with the option of applying for an EPA implementation grant for \$250,000, due this past Monday. There is no cash match required and it would provide funding for one half time person for 2 years. The District should hopefully see a contract from IDEM by Sept. 1st.
- County Budget 2018 – Krista presented the proposed 2018 county budget for funds received from County Council. Tom Miller made a motion for budget to be submitted to County Council as presented. Jeff Stieglitz seconded that motion and all agreed, motion passed.
- 2018 Plat Books – Krista presented the different contract options for a 2018 plat book from Mapping Solutions. Jeff Stieglitz made a motion for the larger scale printing without

the aerial photos and to start with an initial order of 50 books. Don Rekeweg seconded said motion, all agreed, motion passed. Krista will handle contract with Mapping Solutions.

- SWCD Vehicle Update – Greg stressed that the District is in need of a new truck especially for moving equipment. The board asked that he research some options and present them next month.
- Large Format Printer – Krista shared the need for an updated large format printer and the status of the current printer. She only received 1 quote that was rather high and shared that she is hopeful to receive a more reasonable quote in the next few days and she will report back next month.
- Business Plan Update – a full day session is scheduled for 9/13/17 at the SWCD office.

Upcoming Events

- Next Board Meeting – Wednesday August 23, 2017 at *4pm *
- DAP Public Meetings – August 23rd at 1pm & 5:30pm
- Soil Health Field Day @ Roemke's – August 10th
- NEPAC Field Day August 25, 2017
- Day at the Lake - September 9, 2017

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Approval of minutes as presented:

Chairman

Date